(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b) No such proposal has been included in the Ninth Five Year Plan.

(c) Implementation of Stage - II of Mejia Thermal Power Station (MTPS). in West Bengal by the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) will depend upon various factors including techno-economic clearance of the proposal availability of funds power demand-supply position in the DVC Valley and the Eastern Grid.

Welfare Programmes for Youths in J & K

2446. SHRI CHAMAN LAL GUPTA : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of various programmes for welfare of rural youths launched by the Union Government during the last two years in Jammu and Kashmir; and

(b) the achievement level of each of them as on date?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment has not lauched any welfare programme during last two years for youths in the country including the State of Jammu & Kashmir. However, Training of Rural Youths for Self Employment (TRYSEM) is an ongoing programme being implemented by the centre throughout the country including J&K for providing technical and entrepreneurial skill to rural youths from the families living below poverty line so as to enable them to take up employment. Besides, Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY), Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) and Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) are also on-going wage/self employment programmes being implemented by the centre through out the country including the State of J& K for the persons living below poverty line including the rural youths in J&K.

(b) Achievements under above programmes in J&K during 1995-96 and 1996-97 are as under :

Programme	Achievement		Unit
	1995-96	1996-97	
TRYSEM	4326	4294	No. of Youths Trained
JRY	48.23	18.36	Lakh mandays generated
EAS	129.96	91.66	-do-
IRDP	13189	11474	No. of families assisted

[Translation]

Water Testing Laboratories

2447. SHRI LINGARAJ VALYAL : Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the States where the water quality testing laboratories were set up under the Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission during the last three years; and

(b) the number of farmers benefited therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI KINJARAPPU YERRANNAIDU) : (a) The information is given in the attached Statement

(b) The aim of setting up of laboratories is to monitor the quality of drinking water supplied to rural areas and generate awareness about water quality among rural masses.

Statement

Name of State	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	Total
Assam	15	-	-	15
Haryana	-	4	-	4
Himachal Predesh	-	8	-	8
Jammu & Kashmir	4	-	-	4
Meghalaya	-	-	1	1
Uttar Pradesh	37	-	-	37
West Bengal	-	6	-	6
Total	56	18	1	75

[English]

Claims filed by Rail Users

2448. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of claims filed with the Chief Claims Officer, Northern Railway, New Delhi during the last six months by rail users on the ground of inconvenience caused to them due to cancellation and rescheduling of train without intimating them in advance;

(b) whether no claims have been settled during the said period; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) No separate data about filing of claims for refunds on account of absence of advance intimation about cancellation/rescheduling of trains is maintained.